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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Darren James Zellak
CONNECTOR COUPLING/DECOUPLING TOOL
Serial No. 10/673,116
Filed 09/29/2003

Before the Examiner
Paul T. Chin
Art Unit 3652
Atty. Docket RI92403

Hon Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED 10/05/2005

Sir:

Responsive to the Office action mailed 10/05/2005, applicant provisionally withdraws Claim 26 from consideration, but request reconsideration of the examiner's holding that this claim is drawn to non-elected specie.

As applicant understands the instant Office action, the examiner contends that Claim 26 reads only on the Figure 8 embodiment, which was not elected. Applicant contends that this Claim 26 reads on the elected embodiment. In the application, the following statements are made:

"In an embodiment, the connector tool is capable of handling a SC fiber optic cable connector. In another embodiment, the connector tool is capable of handling an electrical cable connector. In both embodiments, the connector tool is able to efficiently handle the installation into and removal of the component from its port, with ease and without damage to the connector or port. "
(Last 3 sentences, Par. 4).

"Cable slot 36 accommodates the cable as the cable connector is handled by the connector tool." (Second sentence, Par. 16). "It (Cable slot 36) merely needs to provide sufficient space for accommodating the cable." (Next to last sentence, Par. 16).

"In a preferred embodiment, the cable slot of the gripper sufficiently overlaps the cable channel of the sleeve to provide sufficient space for the cable to move freely as the sleeve slides back and forth along the gripper." (Lines 10-13, Par. 17).

Claim 26 recites:

"In the connector tool recited in Claim 25, wherein said gripper has sufficient space in said

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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD Effective January 1, 2003						10673116					
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